

Forest Grove, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>

My dear Father,

We received,  
through Henry, last night, the  
welcome tidings of your safe  
arrival in the East.

We shall expect a letter  
from you very soon giving full  
account of your doings and  
seeings. Your letters  
hitherto have been dreadfully  
short, though, in spite of  
that, affording us great satis-  
faction. We want full  
account of all your family  
gatherings, of how things look  
to you after your thirty years  
absence from them, &c., &c.

Everything here

is favorable. We hear from Sarah, however, that she has not secured any more pupils in painting and therefore she expects to come home next week. I am sorry that she could not have remained down longer.

We have taken several rides with Venus. She goes very nicely indeed. I feel proud and happy to say that I have martingaled for him.

I have at last got the potatoes in. They are immense individually and collectively.

There are, I should think, about fifty bushels, at the rate of about four hundred to the acre. They were not injured by the rain. We have been having about ten days of weather mostly very pleasant.

To-day was one of the finest specimens.

I went to P. yesterday, and came out on the construction train in the evening. There is a large amount of business going on now.

Capt. Wilkinson is treading some crooked toes around here in a way that does a believer's soul good. We find him a very pleasant lodger.

I am getting on pretty satisfactorily with Rhetoricals.

I have my hands full, however, with my various duties.

Well it is bed-time and I must close.

Good-by,  
Willie.

My Dear Darling Father

I have time only to write a few words as it is Monday morning and the letter must go in a few minutes, Capt Wilkinson has come and taken up his abode with us he will be quite a lively addition to our family. We are both feeling well. I hope you are not all tired out with your trip. I get pretty homesick to see you every little while. I wish I was there with you. You must take good care of yourself and not do too much and please write as often as you can. We send ever & ever so much love to you; Remember us to our relatives  
Your loving daughter Mary.